

Kentucky Section AIPG Business Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Zoom Remote Access Meeting

Attendees: **Bill Brab, Tim Crumbie**, Frank Ettensohn, Faith Feine, **Donnie Lumm, Edward Lo, John Popp, Richard Smath**.

Welcome and Call to Order

President Edward Lo called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

President's Report

Edward reported that the UK Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences will be hosting their annual awards ceremony in a virtual format on May 1, 2020. During these ceremonies, undergraduate and graduate students are typically presented with awards such as scholarships for their accomplishments.

President Elect

Megan Cleinmark – no report.

Vice President

John Popp reported that he has been in touch with Sarah Johnson at Northern Kentucky University (NKU), who suggested that the KY-AIPG campus visit be re-scheduled for the fall when it could be held as part of their Careers Course. He added that Sarah has received funding for an internship through the Kentucky Geological Survey (KGS). Frank Ettensohn added that the KGS has established a full tuition scholarship for students engaged in a Kentucky based projects and that Sarah will be the first person to receive the award.

John added that the KGS Advisory Board will hold a meeting on April 17, 2020 from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. It will be hosted online. Greg Cornett has been elected to serve on the board. Also, the KGS Annual Meeting will be held online from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm on May 14, 2020. Frank added that participants will need to register for the event and there is no cost to participate. John volunteered to provide the registration information to those interested if they don't already have it.

Secretary's Report

Tim Crumbie reported that the minutes from the March 17, 2020 meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee members on April 13, 2020. The minutes were approved by electronic vote on April 14, 2020 following minor revisions. Tim added that Faith Fiene has provided him with the contact information for the winner from KY State Science and Engineering Fair but deferred further comment until later in the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Brab distributed (electronically) copies of the Treasurer's Report for the period ending March 31, 2020. The report is summarized below:

Total Operating Funds as of February 29, 2020	\$24,653.36
Checking Acct. Balance as of March 31, 2020	\$24,570.26
PayPal Account Balance as of March 31, 2020	\$ 0.00
Total Operating Funds as of February 29, 2020	\$24,570.26

Net change from previous report: - \$83.10

John made motion to accept the treasurer's report and Donnie seconded. The motion passed.

Edward said that the owner of the Wild Fig Books and Coffee shop is willing to refund the \$30 donation made by KY-AIPG following the February 18, 2020 meeting because the free coffee/drinks were not provided. Bill Brab, Donnie Lumm and John Popp agreed that a refund would not be necessary because the office space was utilized.

Past President's Report

No report.

Communication Coordinator's Report

Richard Smath reported that the website is should be up to date now that he has all of the glitches that he encountered since working remotely worked out.

New Business

General discussion was held about whether the Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) Geology Department KU has provided a student award nomination as they had previously indicated. As of today's date only one student award nomination from Northern Kentucky University (NKU) has been received. Edward asked if a reminder of the approaching deadline can be sent out. General discussion was held and the decision was that a follow-up reminder does not need to be sent. Bill will check the mailbox to see if any new nominations have been received since it was last checked.

Donnie submitted a letter nominating Mark Sweet to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. No other nominations have been received. The same deadline will apply for the Lifetime Achievement and Geologist of the Year awards. April 30, 2020 will be the final date by which nominations can be received.

Edward recommended posting a COVID-19 message of solidarity on the KY-AIPG Facebook page. He will use the message that Donnie composed earlier.

EKU Five Year External Review: Bill had mentioned that Dr. Melissa Dieckmann has prepared a document addressing the effectiveness of the undergraduate geology program at EKU. Every five years, the Council on Postsecondary Education reviews every program offered by public institutions of higher education throughout the Commonwealth to ensure that programs are effective. Dr. Dieckmann has requested that KY-AIPG review the document and evaluate their program. The current deadline for the completion of this task is May 15, 2020. She is requesting third party volunteers from our section to participate in the review process. Frank added that these types of periodic reviews are commonly required and that often times the third parties come into the department and interview the faculty, former and current students to get feedback on the program as it is difficult to assess a program without having gone through it. It should be quite in-depth and more than a just a paper study. He indicated that people

who have gone through the program are better suited to perform the reviews. The COVID-19 developments would make it very difficult to do in the allotted timeframe. Bill recommended responding indicating that given the current situation of not being able to access personnel in the department, that AIPG could not effectively evaluate the program within the timeframe required.

Faith reported that on Saturday March 28, 2020, 364 science projects were judged virtually as part of the Kentucky State Science and Engineering Fair. She reported that there were no geology-oriented projects for the middle school level. The high school project entitled *Soil Water Relationships in Different Soil Horizons and Landscape Positions* that was presented by Tharanie Subramaniam who was selected as the winner in the High School category. She was also presented with the Women in Geosciences Award. Frank added that there were very few earth science based projects in the many events that he judges. Faith said she can hand deliver the book and the certificate and check can be mailed later. Faith also said that the winner also gave permission to publish her name in newsletters or otherwise in recognition of her receipt of the award.

The AIPG National Conference entitled *Role of Geoscientists for Resiliency, Sustainability and Opportunities in a Changing Environment* will be held in Sacramento, California on October 3-6, 2020. Edward asked if it would be possible for a substitute to attend the meeting if he is not able to participate. General discussion was held about potential options.

Edward provided an update from Dr. Kenneth Lacovara, Professor at Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ, who indicated that he had apparently missed the first message that had been sent to him regarding speaking at the now cancelled Darwin Lecture. Edward was referred to Dr. Lacovara's agent who informed him that a speaker's fee of \$10,000 would apply. Donnie suggested that Dan Phelps try to contact another potential speaker and Frank said if needed, he has another option he could check with as a potential speaker for the 2021 lecture.

Edward asked if there are any plans to host an online module in the fall. Frank reported that the Geological Society of Kentucky (GSK) is planning on holding a short course on a Friday and a carbonate petrology field trip on the following day. He referenced the success of the core logging workshop and added that he could ask if GSK would be interested in co-hosting the event with KY-AIPG. Frank also recommended that KY-AIPG consider an outreach event which could be timely if the COVID-19 pandemic is over. General discussion was held about possibilities along this front. Bill suggested that a social event could be hosted using a platform similar to Zoom which is gaining popularity in the U.S.

Board of Registration for Professional Geologists Update

Bill reported that the Spring ASBOG test was canceled until the fall. He and Mark Sweet met earlier in the week and reviewed four applications for comity. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 8, 2020 in Frankfort. Bill reported that he has received positive feedback on the relevancy of the exam.

Student Chapters

Bill has solicited comments from Murray State University, Morehead State University, Western Kentucky University (WKU), ECU and UK to see what types of activities they have held and information about their organizations and sponsors. This information has been requested by National AIPG and can be accessed on their webpage.

Bill recommended that all of the documents related with the award nominations be circulated to the executive committee so that all will be prepared to discuss/vote during the next scheduled meeting.

Next Meeting

Edward suggested that the next meeting be scheduled for May 14th at 5:30 pm using the Zoom format. John made a motion to accept the proposed meeting date and time, and Bill seconded. The motion passed. John made a motion to adjourn and Bill seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.